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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/703,312	11/01/2000	Ghulam Abbas Laljani	BELL-0055/00166	1375
38952	7590	11/04/2004	EXAMINER	
WOODCOCK WASHBURN LLP ONE LIBERTY PLACE - 46TH FLOOR PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103			AL AUBAIDI, RASHA S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2642	
DATE MAILED: 11/04/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/703,312

Applicant(s)

LALJIANI, GHULAM ABBAS

Examiner

Rasha S AL-Aubaidi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 13-16, 21-24, 26, 27 and 29-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 13-16, 21-24, 26, 27 and 29-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Response to Amendment

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. Claims 1-11, 13-16, 21-24, 26, 27, and 29-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morley et al (US PAT # 5,848,132) in view of Brennan et al (US PAT# 5,329,578).

Regarding claim 1, Morley teaches a system to schedule calls for placement comprising: a service switching point (SSP 2, see Fig.1) being in communication with a first telephone station (customer's telephone) associated with a scheduling party (this reads on the customer) and at least one other telephone station associated with at least one scheduled party to be called (this reads on the other destination to which the pre-booked call will be made at the specified time by the customer, see col.3, lines 53-54), said first telephone station receiving call schedule information on a telephone interface and communicating said call schedule information (see col.3, lines 64-67) to said service switching point (SSP 2); a service node (SN, this reads on IP 15, for example, in Fig. 1) communicating with the service switching point (SSP 2) ; said service switching point (SSP) adapted to connect at least one other telephone station with said first telephone station in accordance with said call schedules

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(this reads on the other destination to which the pre-booked call will be made at the specified time by the customer, see col.3, lines 53-54); and a service control point (SCP this reads on SCP 8, see Fig.1) communicating with said service switching point (SSP 2), and comprising: an administrative computing application, a call scheduling computing application (for the use of an administrative computing application, a call scheduling computing application it would have been obvious to have these applications/software applied in the AIN environment in order to help improving and speeding the procedure of scheduling telephone calls in advance, and a call information database (this basically reads on SCP 8 storing the schedule information, see col.5, lines 7-8), wherein said service control point (SCP 8) and said service node (SN) place a confirmation call (see col. 4, lines 13-28 and lines 47-52 also see Fig. 10).

Morley does not specifically teach said service control point (SCP) and said service node (SN) place a confirmation call to an alternate telephone station associated with said scheduling party.

However, Brennan teaches a method in a communications system for routing calls (see abstract). Routing the call would be based on routing schedule, which specified by the subscriber that is based on a current time of day (see col. 6, lines 50-68, col. 7, lines 1-15, and table 3.0 in col. 7). Brennan also teaches routing calls using a sequence of destinations (the sequence of destinations may reads on alternate telephone, see table 3.0 in col. 7 such as Home Car, Cottage).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the feature of routing calls to an alternate telephone number, as taught by Brennan, into the Morley system in order to provide the convenience to the user/subscriber. Also, this will enhance the chances of reaching the scheduling party anywhere in order to confirm the conference information with him/her for example.

Claim 16 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1. Regarding the features of (a) service switching point (SSP), accepting call schedule information from first telephone station, wherein call schedule information comprises time for the scheduled call, a date for the scheduled call, a telephone number for the scheduled call, and telephone number for the confirmation call (this basically reads on providing the required information in order to schedule the call, see Fig. 3) and (d) monitoring said stored call schedule information by said service control point (SCP) to determine if a scheduled call is to be placed (this is obvious, because when the date and time reaches for the scheduled call since SCP 8, processes the connection of the call between the customer and the other destination).

Claims 11, 30 and 34 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claim 2 recites that the service switching point (SSP 2) upon receipt of a request from said first telephone station to schedule a call, this reads on the customer desire to schedule a call, see col.3, lines 53-64), sends a request to said service control point (SCP) to execute said administrative computing application and said call scheduling application, said administrative computing application determining if said first telephone station is allowed to schedule calls, said call scheduling application, upon confirmation that said first telephone station is allowed to schedule calls, cooperating with said service switching point (SSP) to accept, store and manage required call scheduling data (Morley teaches that the service is available to the customer, see col.3, lines 64-65. In addition, services like call scheduling, call waiting, or call forwarding would not be provided to customers without subscription to these services).

Claim 3 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1. Also, for the feature of prompting said first telephone station to input call schedule information indicative of desired scheduled calls, this reads on the IP 15, for example in Fig.1 to enter the appropriate date and time, see col.4, lines 1-10).

Regarding claim 4 and 17, Morley teaches said prompts comprise information representative of: a request to enter the time of said scheduled call, a request to enter the frequency of said scheduled call, and a request to enter the

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telephone number for said scheduled call (see col.4, lines 1-20), and a request to enter the telephone number of said confirmation call (this is obvious, since it may read on the scenario of requesting a telephone number to where the confirmation call would be sent).

Claim 5 recites that the call schedule application of said service control point (SCP) creates a record for each scheduled call and storing said record in said call information database (Morley teaches storing the record and the data information for each scheduled call, see col.5, lines 42-51. If the reference teaches storing the record for one scheduled call then obviously it is possible to store the record in the database for other calls).

Regarding claims 7 and 22, Morley teaches service switching point (SSP) launches a trigger application (see col.3, lines 53-60) in response to the request from said first telephone station, said trigger application generating the request to said service control point (SCP).

Regarding claims 6 and 8, Morley teaches the request to said service control point (SCP 8) from the service switching point (SSP 2) comprises information identifying a telephone station associated with said scheduling party to call at the time of a scheduled call (this basically reads on providing the scheduling party telephone number/CLID information with the other data in order to schedule the call, see col. 3, lines 53-60).

Regarding claim 9, Morley teaches said service control point (SCP 8), in response to the request from the service switching point (SSP 2), searches said database for information identifying service nodes (SN) adapted to place calls to said scheduling party and to said scheduled party (see col.4, lines 24-29).

Claim 10 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1 and 16. Morley teaches the (SN, which reads on IP 15) that may be used to complete the scheduled call and a request to place a confirmation call to the scheduling party, said service switching point (SSP 2) communicating with least one of said service nodes (SN) a request to place said confirmation call, see col. 4, lines 13-29).

Regarding claim 13, Morley teaches said service switch point (SSP) to place id scheduled call to said scheduled party using said identified service node (SN), see col. 4, lines 59-65.

Claim 14 recites that the call schedule application of said service control point (SCP), upon receiving no confirmation for said scheduled call, deletes the created record for the scheduled call. This is obvious, because there is no sense of having the call-scheduled information occupying storage space in the database when there is no confirmation received to continue processing the pre-booking for this particular call.

Regarding claim 15, Morley teaches the connection between said service switching point (SSP) and said at least one other telephone station comprises a second service switching point (SSP 2), for example, see Fig.1, and col. 2, lines 44-56.

Claim 21 recites that said confirmation comprises any of: a DTMF code and an electronic message (this basically may read on the voice prompts, see col.3, lines 40-43).

Claim 23 recites that the database at the service control point (SCP 8) comprises information identifying for said service switching point (SSP) cooperating plurality of service nodes (SN) for use when processing scheduled calls (see Fig.1, SSP 2, IP 15 and IP 16).

Claim 24 recites that the act of identifying to said service switching point (SSP) the plurality of service nodes (SN), comprises transmitting the directory numbers corresponding to the plurality of service nodes (SN) by said service control point (SCP). This reads on the transmitted digits between the customers' lines, (see col.2, lines 44-50)

Claim 26 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1,16 and 30. Also, for receiving a response from said first party

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indicating that said first party should be connected to said telephone station and connecting said first party to said telephone station (see col.5, lines 52-67 and col.6, lines 1-8). The claimed feature of second telephone number at which said confirmation call should be placed (this basically reads on the scheduled party phone number, see col.5, lines 8-10).

Claim 27 recites that said information is received from a telephone interface of a telephone station. This is inherent.

Regarding claim 29, Morley teaches said information further indicates a date (this basically reads on the scheduled party phone number, see col.5, lines 7-10).

Claim 31 recites, "said service control point (SCP) and said service node (SN) place said confirmation call before said scheduled telephone call becomes due". This is obvious, because the purpose of placing confirmation is notify or alert the scheduling party or even the scheduled party about the occurrence of a conference call at a certain time and date.

Claim 32 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 31.

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Claim 33 basically reads on the scenario of placing a confirmation that the conference is happening at this moment. Many references teach the feature of confirming the establishment of a conference call. Therefore this is obvious and well known in the art.

Regarding claims 35-37 features, obviously it is beneficial to user/subscriber to have a confirmation call made to both destinations (main telephone number and the alternate telephone number). This of course will increase the possibilities of receiving the confirmation by the user/subscriber at any location.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rasha S AL-Aubaidi whose telephone number is (703) 605-5145. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad F Matar, can be reached on (703) 305-4731. The

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fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Examiner

Rasha S Al-Aubaidi

10/29/2004


AHMAD MATAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600